General Assembly

Amendment

Offered by:
  REP. KERENSKY, 14th Dist.
  REP. BEALS, 88th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5496**   File No. 361   Cal. No. 229

"AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION."

1   After the last section, insert the following:

2   "Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
3   repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4   *1, 2002*):

5   (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
6   service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
7   personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
8   professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
9   teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
10   the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)
11   of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,
12   and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental
13   health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be
14   limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the

15   relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually
16   transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in
17   section 19a-581, violence, child abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth
18   and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and
19   gifted and talented children and children who may require special
20   education, and methods for identifying, planning for and working
21   effectively with special needs children in a regular classroom, (4)
22   school violence prevention and conflict resolution, (5)
23   cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency life saving
24   procedures, (6) computer and other information technology as applied
25   to student learning and classroom instruction, communications and
26   data management, **[and]** (7) the teaching of the language arts, reading
27   and reading readiness for teachers in grades kindergarten to three,
28   inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition and sheltered content
29   instructional strategies for English language learners. The State Board
30   of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available
31   materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of
32   education to include: (A) Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the
33   historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-
34   American history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American
35   history; (F) personal financial management; and (G) topics approved
36   by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of
37   education as part of in-service training programs pursuant to this
38   subsection.

39   Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2002*) The Department of Education
40   shall (1) prepare materials concerning second language acquisition and
41   sheltered content instructional strategies for English language learners,
42   (2) distribute such materials to teacher preparation programs in the
43   state, and (3) work with the faculty of such programs to integrate these
44   topics into appropriate coursework.

45   Sec. 10. Subsection (e) of section 10-17f of the general statutes is
46   repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July
47   1, 2002*):

48   (e) Each local and regional board of education shall hold a meeting
49   with the parents and legal guardians of eligible students to explain the
50   benefits of the language program options <u>or other educational options</u>
51   available in the school district, including an English language
52   immersion program. The parents and legal guardians may bring an
53   interpreter or an advisor to the meeting. If the parent or legal guardian
54   of an eligible student opts to have such student placed in a program of
55   bilingual education <u>pursuant to subsection (b) of this section</u>, the local
56   or regional board of education shall place the child in such program."